(c) Some of the important reasons for low output per manshift in Indian coal mines are as under :—

(i) Majority of the underground mines are worked manually.

(ii) Many underground mines are having geo-mining problems like steep and multiple seams, ocourrance of fires and water logged and workings in adjoining areas, built up surface structures which need protection by sand stowing etc. requiring employment of sizeable workforce for dealing with such unproductive activities.

(iii) High rate of absenteeism.

(iv) Coal companies are required to provide supporting ser vices for workshops, ware houses and also municipal services like hospitals, water supply, colony maintenance etc. through departmental workforce, which gets added to the total manpower for computation of output permanshift lowering the overall productivity figure-

Some of the major steps being taken to improve productivity in Indian coal mines are as follows:—

(i) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers.

(ii) Stricter control on increase in manpower.

(iii) Deployment of higher capacity equipment like draglines, shovels, dumbers and drills in opencast mines and roof bolting machines, continuous miners, powered support longwall systems, mul-tislicing, blasting galery method etc. in underground mines.

(iv) Improvement in the availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved. management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipment.

Jhajhra Project of Eastern Colleries Limited

1223. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Jhajhra Project of Eastern Colleries Limited near Durgapur, build up with Soviet aid is facing crisis of extinction; and

(b) if so, what remedial action Government have taken in TITS'? regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) The recent events in the erstwhile USSP have created certain uncertainities in the supply of equipment as well as spare parts for Soviet manufactured equipment. However, it is not likely that this will have serious adverse effect on the implementation of this project, as negotiations would be held with successor Governments.

(b) The following intermediate steps are being taken to ensure the smooth implementation of this project :—

(i) Major assemblies/sub-assemblies of Soviet manufactured equipment are being planned to be replaced with indigenously manufactured assemblies.

(ii) Indigentsatlon of spare parts to the extent possible is being undertaken.

(iii) Direct contacts with Sovitet Manufacturers are being made o

obtain critical spares instead of limiting it to the Trading Houses of Russia.

(iv) Parallel arrangements for procuring future equipment for this project from other sources are also being made as felt necessary.

Pit head price of different grade of coal

1224. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the pit-head price of different grades of coal before and after the price hike @ Rs. 70/- per tonne;and

(b) what would be the total cost per tonne of coal at the receiving end ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA) (a) Before revision of prices of coal effective from 28-12-1991 the average pithead price of coal produced by Coal India Limited was Rs. 249/- per torme and that of Singareni Collieries Company Limited was Rs. 297/- per tonne. After revision it was enchan-ced to Rs. 322/- per tonne and Rs. 388/- per tonne respectively.

(b) Coal is sold ex-pithead and the freight is to be borne by the consumer. Freight depends on the distance from the pithead and the mode of transport by which coal is transported. In addition excise duty, royalty and other taxes will add to the cost of coal at the consumer end.

कोयले के लदान में माफिया की गति-विधियां

1225. **श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा :** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान पटना से प्रकाशित 24 जनवरी, 1992 के "नवभारत टाइम्स" में "बालू और कोयले की ढुलाई में माफिया फिर हावी" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री एस०बी० नयमेगौड़ा) : (क) जी, हां । 28 जनवरी, 1992 के नवभारत टाइम्स (पटना से प्रकाशित संस्करण) में "बालू और कोयले की ढुलाई में माफिया फिर हावी" शीर्षक से एक समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ था ।

(ख) भारत कोकिंग कोल लि० ने इस समाचार में प्रस्तुत की गई सामग्री को स्वीकार नहीं किया है। इस कोयला कंपनी ने सूचना दी है कि इस समय भारत कोकिंग कोल लि० में कोयले और रेत के परिवहन में लगे जिला प्रशासन द्वारा 21 सहकारी समितियों को विधिवत रूप में प्रायोजित किया गया है।

जैसा कि उस समाचार में कहा गया है रेत के बारे में अतिशय रिपोर्टिंग तथ्यों पर आधारित नहीं है।अतिशय रिपोर्टिंग को निरस्त करने के लिए सुरक्षित स्थानों पर केंद्रीय औद्योगिक सुरक्षा बल के कार्मिकों जोखिम वाले स्थानों पर तैनात हैं । इसके बाद ट्रकों की रेत के कार्य से संबंधित "मंशियों" द्वारा जांच की जाती है । अंतिम भुगतान किये जाने से पहले भूमिगत माप द्वारा रेत की मात्रा का सामंजस्य किया जाता है ।

रेत परिवहन सहकारी समितियों का पिछले तीन वर्ष का कार्यकलाप उनके लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्य का 35 से 40 प्रतिशत के मध्य रहा । सहकारी समितियों को समझौते के पैरामीटरों के अनुरूप कार्य करने की सभी सुविधाएं प्रदान कराई गई हैं । सहकारी समितियों तथा निजी संविदाकारों द्वारा लाई गई रेत के माप के बारे में कोई पक्षपात नहीं किया जाता है ।